



Department of State TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 846

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00120 040052Z

84

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 ACDA-18 MC-02

EA-10 RSR-01 /121 W

R 032310Z FEB 70
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5718

UNCLAS OTTAWA 120

SUBJ: GOC REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S ABM ANNOUNCEMENT

REF : OTTAWA 113

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF EXCHANGE SUMMARIZED
IN REFTEL:

2. Q: I WISH TO DIRECT A QUESTION TO THE PRIME MINISTER.
IT ARISES OUT OF A STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT NIXON THAT HIS
ADMINISTRATION NOW PROPOSES TO PROCEED WITH THE SECOND
STAGE OF THE SAFEGUARD ABM SYSTEM. IN VIEW OF THE
PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT OF MARCH 19 LAST THAT THE
CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WAS REVIEWING THE MATTER AND WOULD
DECIDE VERY SOON WHETHER THEY WOULD CONDEMN THIS ABM
PROGRAM OR CO-OPERATE WITH IT, I ASK THE PRIME MINISTER
WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOW REACHED A DECISION,
WHETHER IT HAS CONVEYED ANY PROTEST TO THE UNITED STATES,
AGAINST THE ABM SYSTEM OR WHETHER IT HAS INDICATED ITS
INTENTION OF CO-OPERATING WITH THEM IN THE CONSTRUCTION
OF THE SAFEGUARD SYSTEM?

3. PRIMIN TRUDEAU: MR. SPEAKER, THE HOUSE WILL
RECALL THAT ON THAT OCCASION WE WERE CONCERNED THAT
THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WOULD
CREATE AN ESCALATION OF THE ARMS RACE. I MUST SAY THAT
TO DATE OUR EVIDENCE HAS NOT SHOWN THAT THIS HAS RESULTED.
THEREFORE OUR MAIN CONCERN AT THAT TIME DOES NOT APPEAR TO

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY *M. J. [Signature]* DATE *2/15/70*
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE _____
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
EXEMPTIONS _____

UNCLASSIFIED



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 OTTAWA 00120 040052Z

HAVE BEEN WELL FOUNDED THUS FAR. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT ON OVER-ALL GROUNDS WE ARE HAPPY TO SEE THE PROJECT PROCEED. AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED, WE HAVE NO DETERRENT TO PROTECT ON OUR SOIL. HOWEVER, INSOFAR, AS IT IS IMPORTANT TO PROTECT NOT THE DETERRENT BUT THE CIVILIAN POPULATION, WE FEEL--AND I UNDERSTAND THE FEAR FELT BY THE UNITED STATES IS MOSTLY COMING FROM AN ORIENTAL DIRECTION-- THAT OUR OWN APPROACH TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA THE NEGOTIATIONS GOING ON IN STOCKHOLM ARE CERTAINLY A BETTER WAY IN THE LONG RUN TO PROTECT THE WORLD FROM WAR THAN IS A CONTINUANCE OF THE ARMS RACE.

4. Q: IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT, AS MAJORITY LEADER MIKE MANSFIELD HAS SAID, THIS PROGRAM WILL COST OVER \$50 BILLION, WHICH IN ITSELF IS AN ESCALATION OF THE ARMS RACE, MAY I ASK THE PRIME MINISTER WHETHER WE ARE TO TAKE HIS RESPONSE AS MEANING THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOW DECIDED THAT THIS DOES NOT CONSTITUTE ANY PERIL TO THE FUTURE PEACE OF THE WORLD, AND THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PROPOSE TO MAKE ANY PROTEST WHATSOEVER WITH RESPECT TO THE SECOND PHASE OF THE SAFEGUARD SYSTEM BEING PROCEEDED WITH?

5. TRUDEAU: I AM AFRAID THE HON. MEMBER HAS UNINTENTIONALLY MISINTERPRETED MY STATEMENT. IT SEEMS TO ME, ON THE CONTRARY, THAT THERE WAS SOME FORM OF PROTEST IN WHAT I SAID: IF THE HON. MEMBER PREFERS TO LOOK AT IT OTHERWISE, THAT IS UP TO HIM. SO FAR AS THE FIGURE PRODUCED BY SENATOR MANSFIELD IS CONCERNED, WE ONLY HEARD IT THIS MORNING ON THE NEWS AND WE HAVE NOT HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK INTO IT. I ALSO TAKE ISSUE WITH THE HON. MEMBER'S LOGIC. WHEN WE TALK OF ESCALATION WE TALK OF ESCALATION BETWEEN COUNTRIES RATHER THAN IN TERMS OF DOLLARS AND CENTS SPENT IN ONE COUNTRY. WHEN WE WERE ANSWERING THIS QUESTION LAST SPRING, IT HAD TO DO WITH THE DANGER OF A DECISION BY THE UNITED STATES RESULTING IN A DECISION BY THE SOVIET UNION WHICH WOULD LEAD TO A SERIES OF ESCALATIONS. WE HAVE NOT SEEN THIS FOLLOW FROM THE ORIGINAL UNITED STATES DECISION. THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT REMAINS RATHER UNHAPPY, HOWEVER, THAT A FRIEND AND ALLY OF SUCH IMPORTANCE SHOULD BE SEEING ITS WAY TO PEACE IN THIS DIRECTION RATHER THAN IN THE DIRECTION I HAVE JUST MENTIONED.

UNCLASSIFIED



DECLASSIFIED
Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 OTTAWA 00120 040052Z

6. Q: MAY I ASK THE PRIME MINISTER WHETHER ANY MEMBER OF THE CABINET IS AT THE PRESENT TIME CARRYING ON ANY NEGOTIATIONS OR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES WITH RESPECT TO THE EXTENSION OF THE SAFEGUARD SYSTEM? IF SO, WHICH MINISTERS ARE CONCERNED AND WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THOSE DISCUSSIONS?

7. TRUDEAU: THERE HAS BEEN NO CONSULTATION ON THIS ITEM OF NEWS, WHICH WE LEARNED ABOUT ONLY THIS MORNING. TO ANSWER THE HON. GENTLEMAN, THERE HAS BEEN NO CONSULTATION AND THERE IS NO MINISTER ENGAGED IN CONSULTATION. WE HAVE NOT, SINCE THIS MORNING, MADE ANY DECISION.

8. Q: MAY I DIRECT THIS SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS? ARE WE TO INFER FROM THE REPLY JUST GIVEN THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT INVOLVE ANY COOPERATION ON THE PART OF CANADA WHATSOEVER?

9. EXTAFFMIN SHARP: I CAN CERTAINLY GIVE THAT ASSURANCE. THIS DECISION BY THE UNITED STATES WAS MADE QUITE INDEPENDENTLY OF ANY CONSULTATION WITH US.
SCHMIDT

DECLASSIFIED
031300 1030